

Outlook

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Grievance Filed Against KVNO

By Kim Despina

An attorney for former KVNO announcer Frank Bramhall has filed a grievance with the university claiming Bramhall suffered from age and religious discrimination at KVNO radio.

Roger R. Holthaus, Bramhall's attorney, said in the grievance that Bramhall suffered "humiliating administrative sanctions which were designed to further undermine his confidence and to impede the practice of his chosen religion."

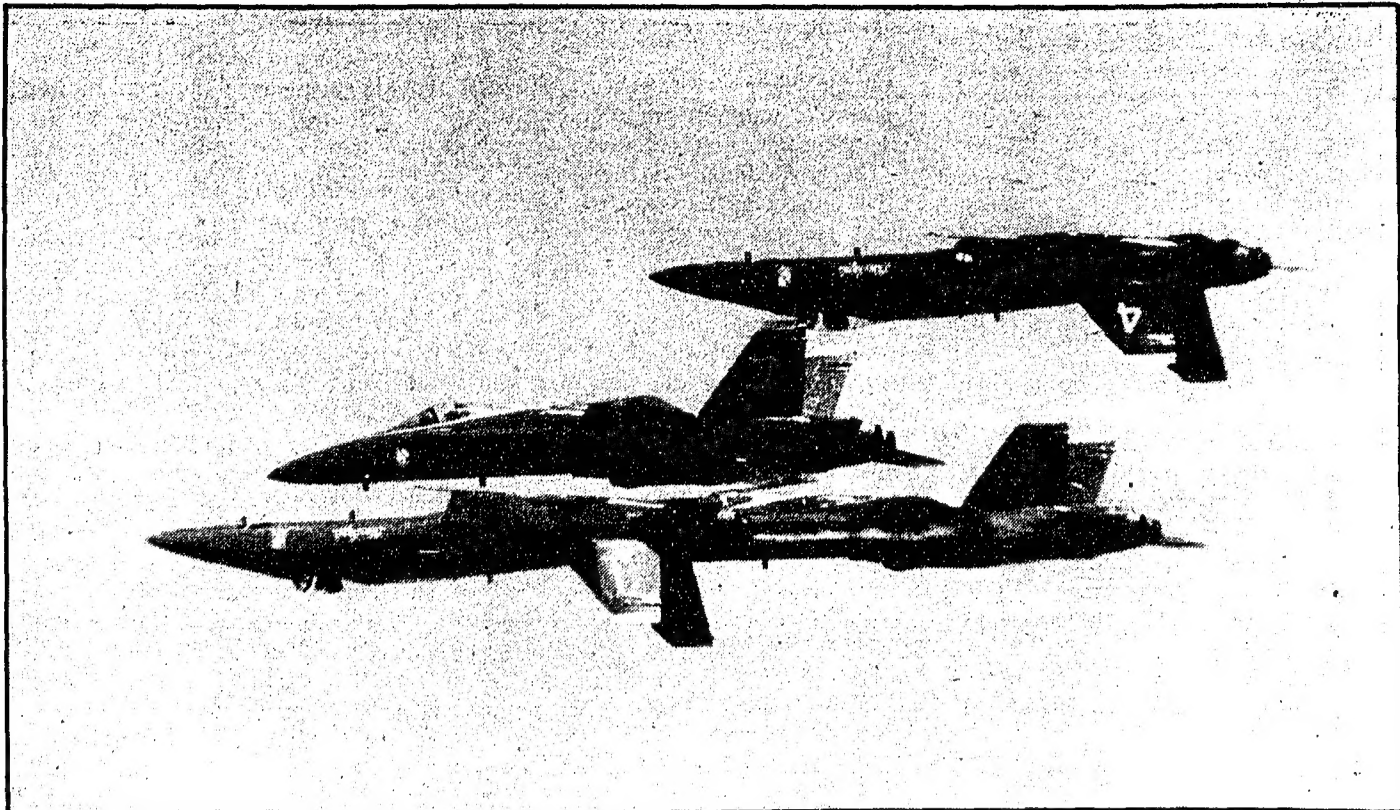
Bramhall is a member of the Worldwide Church of God, which requires the observance of the Sabbath from sundown on Friday until sundown on Saturday. Bramhall took vacation in order to observe other holy days.

Although the vacation time was granted, Bramhall said, his time away led to comments from others that his program was suffering.

"Some had made comments that it was making the program's continuity choppy," he said.

Bramhall has been an announcer at UNO's KVNO for 14 years. Holthaus states in the

SEE KVNO, PAGE 2



Up, Up and Away

The Blue Angels performed at Offutt Air Force Base last weekend. The air show and open house also featured various military aircraft parked around the base area to give viewers an upclose look at the planes. For more on the air show turn to Page 8.

Diamonds Have Own History

By Andrew Bauer

"Nebraska Diamonds," a historical study of professional baseball players from Nebraska, by Jerry Clarke, a professor of anthropology at Creighton University, was the topic of a book review Tuesday at UNO.

The discussion was part of the "UNO Authors" series which is sponsored by the University Religious Center.

Clarke was informed about baseball after collecting anecdotes to use for a lecture circuit, gathered material by interviewing ex-players, player's relatives and studying family and newspaper records to complete "Nebraska Diamonds."

Clarke said he considers baseball to be his first love.

"Baseball sort of evolved out of kid's games. Not unlike kids evolving their own rules today in the backyard to take into account the short garden fence which is only a ground rule double," Clarke said. "Baseball is one of those things that you reinvent on the basis

began to crop up all around the nation. The founding of the National League in 1876, was the beginning of modern professional baseball, Clarke said.

Nebraska's first professional team entered the Northwestern League in 1879. By examining the origins of the American Association, the league the Omaha Royals play in, Clarke learned that many upstart leagues "fell by the board" and closed after a year or two.

A notable change in baseball in recent years has been the number of expansion teams. There were eight teams in the National and American Leagues until 1961. Today, there are 14 teams in the league.

For diehard fan Berg, these expansion teams were somewhat unsettling. "We've got 28 major league teams compared to 16 teams all through my boyhood," Berg said. "You can see why I feel a little jostled around."

Clarke's book glimpses into the careers and private lives of famed Nebraska players, such as Grover Cleveland Alexander

"Baseball sort of evolved out of kid's games. Not unlike kids evolving their own rules today in the backyard to take into account the short garden fence which is only a ground rule double,"

—Jerry Clarke
Creighton professor of anthropology

of the dimensions of what kind of a lot you have.

"That's the intrigue about baseball. It's not played on the grids and the dimensions. Football, basketball and all that, they have a specific time period. Specific dimensions that have to be adhered to."

The Rev. Darrel E. Berg, UNO's campus pastor and moderator for the discussion series, shared a similar view.

"That's the thing about baseball. That's what makes it turn mystical," Berg said. "Baseball games, theoretically, could go on forever ... so, you can see why people feel religious about it."

Clarke's anthropological expertise offers readers a unique perspective on baseball. "Nebraska Diamonds" weaves the history of Nebraska ball players with the history of professional baseball.

The evolution of teams can be observed by the different team names. For example, the Chicago White Stockings became the Chicago Orphans, which later became the Chicago Cubs. The names of the teams were as ever-changing as the leagues that

and Bob Gibson, and presents many more obscure Nebraska players.

There were four pre-1900 professional baseball players from Nebraska: Washington Senator Charlie Abbey, Cleveland Spider Henry Clarke, Pittsburgh Allegheny Fred Truax and Cincinnati Red Stocking's Hall-of-Famer, "Wahoo" Sam Crawford, a native of Wahoo, Clarke said.

Trivia buffs might recognize Crawford as the only player ever to lead both the American and National Leagues in home runs.

Currently, Omaha natives Gregg Olson of the Baltimore Orioles and Wade Boggs of the New York Yankees, play in the major leagues. Former UNO player, Bruce Benedict, played for the Atlanta Braves.

Making History, an Omaha publishing company, printed the book which is available in area bookstores. Clarke has also published "Anson to Zuber," a history of Iowan ball players, and "The Shawnee," a history of the Shawnee Indians.

Romanians Visit Omaha

By Tim Rohwer

A group of Romanian educators, business owners and students is doing more than sight-seeing while visiting Nebraska.

The 15-member group, which arrived in Omaha last Sunday, is touring the state to learn more about economics and the private enterprise system and how business and economics are taught in American universities.

Larry Trussell, a UNO business professor, said their visit is part of UNO's educational effort in that country through its sister university, Alexandru Cuza University in Iasi, Romania.

"The purpose of the trip is to enhance their capacity to provide training programs for private enterprises, to support the transition to private enterprise from communism," Trussell said.

He added that Romania has already developed many private enterprises since that country overthrew its communist leaders several years ago.

UNO, which has been administering educational programs at Cuza University for nearly two years, recently developed a small business development center in Romania funded in part by the U.S. government, he said.

"We created the center so that they could learn what we do, and our government gave some money for the development because it certainly wants private enterprises to succeed after years of being in the Cold War," Trussell said.

During the next few weeks, the group plans to spend a day in a particular business, such as a bank or telemarketing firm, to observe its daily routines, as well as take a five-day tour around the state, Trussell said.

The group will visit York, Kearney, Chadron, Valentine and other Nebraska towns before most of them leave for home on Sept. 2, he said.

Two students in the group, Adriana Gafencu and Mihaela Babias, will stay in Omaha for a year to be graduate assistants in UNO's College of Business. Another student, Corneliu Munteanu who's been at UNO for a year, will return to Romania in the next few weeks.

Learning Poetry in Prisons

FROM COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

A group of Alma (Pa.) College English students went to prison recently for the sake of poetry.

During a workshop held at a prison near Alma, the students talked about poetry and contemporary poets with a dozen inmates. Their professor believes students learn better when they are teaching others.

"Poetry conveys much about life in a very focused way," said William Palmer, an associate professor of English.

"Everybody was patted down, and at first it seemed quite dramatic. We weren't sure how it was going to be, but it was not a terrifying experience," Palmer said. He noted that his group didn't want to know about the inmates' crimes so they wouldn't carry any prejudices.

"If the students knew that some of the inmates were rapists or murderers, it

would make them uncomfortable," Palmer said.

The inmates, who often write rough drafts of poems in journals, are encouraged to model their poetry after contemporary poets. The most common type of poem discussed in the workshop was the "poem of address" written directly to a person or thing.

"We saw an older man, a very sweet man, who wrote a poem to a woman that he had not seen in years. When he shared, he started to cry. The other inmates were very supportive," Palmer said.

Palmer said the students learn to accept people in the workshop and find that inmates are often intelligent and sensitive writers.

"Many are very creative, with insight and imagination," Palmer added.

The workshops are highly effective learning exercises, he said, because teaching is an excellent way of absorbing material, and requires that students polish their commu-

nication skills.

In addition to the poetry workshops, Palmer supervises a program entitled "Poetry Workshops for Senior Citizens," in which students are required to meet with five to 10 seniors in a nursing home.

Often a poem will elicit a suppressed memory and the elderly person can share his life with the other participants. Recently, a student reported that one woman recalled her mother crying when she heard bells ringing to signal the end of World War I in 1918.

Another workshop at an Alma health care center involved seniors that are much older and more frail than the others. They are unable to read or write, but they all listen, talk and, at times, shed tears in the poetry workshop.

In a more intimate setting, one of Palmer's students is working with a former Alma College librarian who is afflicted with brain cancer. She is writing poetry about her life and illness.

News Clips

Graduate Studies Extends Fall Hours

The Graduate Studies office will extend business hours to 6:30 p.m., Mondays and Tuesdays during the fall semester. The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday through Friday.

Graduate Studies is located in the Eppley Administration Building, Room 204.

Deadline Is Near For Locker Renewal

The deadline for locker and activity card renewals is Aug. 13. Rental costs for a small locker are \$5 for the semester or \$12 for the year, which includes the summer. Half-sized lockers are \$10 for the semester and \$24 for the year. Full lockers are \$15 per semester and \$36 for the year. New renters will be charged a \$7.50 deposit.

Renewals and rentals can be made at the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building in Room 100.

UNO Bowlers Roll Into League Action

The UNO faculty and staff bowling league will begin Aug. 15 at West Lanes. All faculty and staff are invited to participate. The league will bowl on Wednesdays nights at 4:30. If interested, contact Deb Bates or Leonard Neff at extension 2648, or Marie Kenny, extension 3680.

Japanese Students Will Visit UNO

UNO will host visitors from its sister university, Shizuoka (Japan) University, for the 14th annual Shizuoka Summer Tour beginning Aug. 1.

Twenty-five students from Shizuoka will take part in the four-week program which includes English classes, sight-seeing and field trips throughout the Midwest.

During the first week, the students will tour Omaha and meet Mayor P.J. Morgan. Later, they will travel west for horseback riding at Fort Robinson, white-water rafting in Colorado and visiting the Wind Caves at Mount Rushmore in South Dakota among many other activities.

Med Center Plans To Hold Health Fair

University medical associates at the University of Nebraska Medical Center will hold a health fair on Aug. 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Summit Plaza, located at 3604 Summit Plaza Drive.

The fair will feature blood pressure, cholesterol and diabetes screening, vision tests and health risk assessments.

College of Pharmacy Develops Fellowship

The University College of Pharmacy, in cooperation with Central High School, has developed a research fellowship program for multicultural students.

Students will be exposed to opportunities in pharmacy practice and work with College of Pharmacy faculty members on research projects.

FROM KVNO, PAGE 1

grievance that Bramhall provided KVNO with its listener base.

"KVNO management has never been able to point to a time or incident when Frank Bramhall caused the number of listeners, or their support, to decline," Holthaus said in the grievance.

Evaluations in the past two years have become harassing and were "designed to undermine Frank's confidence to the point where he would accept the criticisms as a product of his advancing age and resign," the grievance said.

Bramhall, who turned 60 on July 3, said he felt age discrimination was part of the reason he was released from KVNO.

"I'm getting close to my retirement years," Bramhall said. "And that's a terrible discrimination especially during a successful career."

KVNO asked him to resign, but he refused, Bramhall said, and was fired. Rod Oberle, director of personnel said UNO officials could not comment on personnel matters.

Bramhall is seeking to return to his job at KVNO, including the resumption his radio show "Breakfast with Bramhall" and the broadcast of mutually acceptable public announcements explaining his absence from the air.

"I've had dozens of calls from upset listeners," he said. "They just want me back on the air, and that's what I want too."



An attorney for Frank Bramhall has filed a grievance with UNO's radio station, KVNO. Bramhall claims he has suffered from age and religious discrimination. He was the announcer for the station's, "Breakfast with Bramhall."

Gateway

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Letters must be signed using the first and last name or initials and the last name. Letters must include the writer's address and phone number although this information will not be published. Letters to the editor exceeding two typed pages will not be considered for publication.

The Gateway THIS END UP

Opinions and Viewpoints

Signed editorials and columns on this page contain the opinions of the authors. The *Gateway* does not necessarily hold the same opinions.

Fed Up With Propaganda

You wouldn't believe some of the trash they put in advertisements these days.

On Sunday, I was hit with some smut as I perused through my favorite portion of the newspaper, the comics. It was as I turned to the last page that I was smacked by the glare of, "WE ARE FED UP!"

What followed was perhaps some of the slickest propaganda I've ever had the displeasure to read. Because of some new program by Steven Bochco called "NYPD Blue," which contains scenes that feature partially nude women, and which ABC plans to run in the fall at 9 p.m. Mondays, the group called the American Family Association (AFA) is up in arms. Thus, to prevent their members' brains from rotting away at the sight of people's naked forms, it placed statements like this in its ad:

"USA Today said the pilot [of NYPD Blue] had A SEX SCENE THAT SHOWS A WOMAN'S BREASTS AND INCLUDES RAW LANGUAGE." Which is true, of course. In fact, from an interview with Mr. Bochco, I listened to on National Public Radio, I gather the pilot won't be the only episode containing partial nudity.

But because the show does contain naked bodies, the AFA came up with a startling conclusion: "After the networks begin showing softcore pornography on 'R-rated' pro-

STEPHEN McINTYRE
columnist

grams, the next step is hardcore pornography on 'X-rated' programs."

And I suppose the first interracial kissing scene on television between Captain Kirk and Lieutenant Uhura on "Star Trek" led to the passionate kissing scenes you'll find in soap operas today? And because National Geographic showed the mating habits of numerous mammals, we now have humans behaving like animals on "L.A. Law"? You never know whether or not those televised trysts led to this scene the AFA vehemently denounces:

"A scene depicted bestiality with a sexual encounter between a dog and a man involving mouth to mouth contact. (Saturday Night Live 5/9)"

Saturday Night Live? Bestiality? Gee, I wonder how many impressionable seven-year-olds were up at 10:30 to watch this? Not to mention the adults who may have gotten the idea to plant one on their pet Doberman all because of one hilarious skit.

The rest of the ad said pretty much the same thing, and was slanted all the way. For example, one statement in the advertisement reported that "in a single day, TV showed 1,846 acts of violence, 389 assaults, 362 gunplay, and 273 punches." All true, except the way it reads, most people might think "1,846 acts of violence, 389 acts of violence, 362 acts of violence, and 273 acts of violence," for a total of nearly 3000 acts of violence a day. This, along with the lack of mention that most of the "violence" on TV occurs on Bugs Bunny cartoons, soap operas, and the ever-popular real-life dramas (COPS) and news magazines.

It's all in how you write.

The smut they show on television is nothing compared to the slick schmooze "pro-family" organizations use to bilk money from hard-working people. At least the networks are honest enough to admit they are only out to make a buck and will cancel their smut if it doesn't make them money.

Can the AFA and other like-minded groups do the same?

The Endless Search for Topics

What should I write my column on?

"Write it on men," my friend Cindy replied, while sucking on a cough drop. "And how they don't call when they say they will. Why don't they call?"

"He knows I'm sick and he still won't call. Have you ever had strep throat before?"

I don't think so.

"Your glands swell up like balloons and all of this white puss forms in your throat. Then you run to the toilet to spit it out."

Errr, I've got to go, Cindy. Call me when you feel better.

Minutes later the phone rings again. It's an ex-staffer. They know that although it's past 11 p.m., people will still be at Annex 26. Besides, like most ex-Gateway people, this person suffers from deadline envy. Throughout the entire year, most people that work on staff gripe about the paper and deadlines. But when their Gateway tour of duty is over, they feel empty and will usually fill this void bugging people who have work to do.

"Have you got your column done?"

Haven't started. What should I write it on?

"Write it on the floods."

Overdone.

"Write it on that basketball player who died because he shouldn't have been playing."

He was only shooting some hoops. He could have been screwing in a light bulb and had the same thing happen to him.

"Write it on Winnie-the-Pooh marrying Eeyore."

Go to bed.

Have you ever noticed unusual growths of

ELIZABETH MERRILL
columnist

hair on your body? Sometimes you will just be sitting, doing nothing, maybe rubbing your hands or something, when you notice hair in weird places. Mine is on my fingers. It's not thick or dark or anything, it's just there. I mentioned it to someone else in the room.

"You know, I get this really long hair on my neck," she said. "It's dark and gross. Usually I just pull it out."

I looked at my fingers for a few more minutes while she rubbed her hands up and

down her neck. The phone rang again. It was my friend Michelle. She was at work.

What should I write my column about?

"Write it on people who graduate and then get jobs that have nothing to do with their degrees."

God, I hate my job."

When do you get off of work?

"Midnight. Get me a fall class schedule tomorrow."

I didn't have the heart to tell her that they are out of them at the Registrar's office. I hung up the phone and strolled outside for some inspiration. Nature has been known to do wonders for writers. It was the fueling force behind Stephen Crane's "The Open Boat." I sat on the deck and breathed in the night air. It was smelly; the weeks of rain have rotted all of the trash and newspapers around the door. Several mosquitoes buzzed around my head. Frustrated with this night, the weather and this whole summer, I walked back inside. The phone rang again. It was Cindy. Her voice sounded even more hoarse.

"So ... Do you think I should call him?"

Lone Ranger Rides Again

The Lone Ranger and Tonto ride again!

That's right, boys and girls, former Presidents Ronald Reagan (a.k.a. Lone Ranger) and George Bush (a.k.a. Tonto), have joined forces again, along with some of the richest and most powerful men in America, to take part in the 121-year-old Bohemian Club's annual Bohemian Grove "encampment" among the redwoods of northern San Francisco (I'm not making this up. It's a true story; straight off the Associated Press).

As you might suspect, an acute sense of curiosity induced me to imagine for a moment what (and I know the possibilities are boundless) could be taking place at this "encampment."

And now, an acute sense of obligation forces me to reveal one of my images in hopes that by discussing this suspicious occurrence, we can arrive at some sort of realization as to what the Lone Ranger and Tonto are REALLY up to out there.

First, let's consider the company that the Lone Ranger and Tonto are keeping. Just who are the other "elite" of this secretive all-male club?

I'm guessing that over the years the Lone Ranger and Tonto have dealt with and helped many powerful (although undesirable) people; and through these meetings, together devised such classics as the Iran-Contra bungle. And let's not forget that big payoff to Iran for delaying the release of the American hostages until Carter was defeated in the 1980 presidential election. Thus, there were paybacks to be delivered.

So, with the influence of the Lone Ranger and Tonto, these men were let into the "club." Then maybe throw in a John Sununu and a Bob Dole to add some zest, and faster than you can say, "discrimination," we've got a party.

Now that we know WHO makes up this club, let's figure out WHAT they're doing. My image goes like this: Since the Lone Ranger and Tonto are involved, we have to

assume their main purpose for attending this retreat is to impose their idea of "justice" (along with the other members of the club) to the rest of society.

On the first day of camp, someone suggests that they kill all the mosquitoes before starting any planned activities.

"I can't stand mosquitoes!" Dole spurts. "There always looking for someone to bite; looking for a hand-out, a freebie. They're in the way of US carrying out OUR objectives. Doesn't anyone know how to rid ourselves of these insignificant beings?"

"Well..." the Lone Ranger says in his familiar tone. "I've got something."

"What's it called?"

"Voo-Doo Economics."

"What brand is that?"

JIM MINGE
columnist

"Republican."

"Yes, the Lone Ranger is wise. His Voo-Doo Economics will work well to suppress and suffocate the menacing insects," Tonto adds his support.

"What do you know, Tonto," Sununu replies. "You're such a little parrot; you'd believe anything that the Lone Ranger says!"

"That's not true! I have good ideas too! You'll see! I should have been the one carrying the silver bullets, not Kimosabe."

"Now, now, boys, let's be civil."

"Hey! there's Milhous!!!"

"Hey, Nixon, you made it! We were wondering how we would record the meeting without you. Did you bring your tape recorder?"

"Yep! Got my tape recorder right here. I never go anywhere without it now. In fact, I'm recording right now! HA! HA! I've got you all

on tape! Everything!"

"Easy, Dick."

"Look at his eyes. They're bugging out!" "Take it easy, Rich, you're freaking me out."

"Maybe he got bit by a MOSQUITO."

"We've got to get rid of those damn things!!!"

"I've taken care of it, men." The Lone Ranger seems calm. But, then again, he always seemed calm. I've put my Voo-Doo Economics to work; it will just take awhile to start working. Then you'll see mosquitoes dropping like crazy. In the meantime, let's have some fun—that's what we're here for, right?"

"Yeah, let's play some games!"

"How about 'Pin the Blame on the Democrat?' or 'Smear the Queer?'" Dole suggests.

The Lone Ranger steps forward. "Men," he pauses to wipe some drool from his mouth. "I've had an idea of mine in the planning stages for quite a while. You see, I happen to know some very influential people in Salt Lake City, and—"

"Are you a Mormon, Lone Ranger?"

"Are you kidding? Look at me."

"Right."

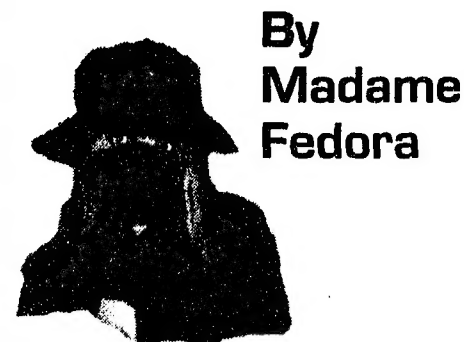
"Listen, here's the deal. I can get us a substantial piece of land on the outskirts of Salt Lake City. We can buy this land and make it OURS; and live the way WE want to live. No sick, no poor, no hungry. Just us, and our own library—one where WE decide which books are to go in it; and our own newspaper—one where WE decide what is to go into it; and our own movie theater, our own museum, and our own school. It will be all ours. WE dictate what goes in, and WE decide what comes out."

"Excuse me, Kimosabe. This all sounds wonderful, but where are we going to get the enormous amounts of money that it will take to fund such a project?"

"The mosquitoes."

THE SONIC LEAVES

The Gateway Entertainment Guide



'Give Me My License'

Let the other pathetic fools run their metal machines on the street.

I'll let my boots do the walking.

Last week I went down to the most dreadful place on the earth, the department of motor vehicles.

I wanted to get a driver's license.

The walks to Festival Foods are getting a little long, especially when you have more than five paper sacks and six 10 lb. bags of potatoes to carry. If I got my license, I thought, I could buy even more bags of potatoes. I could slice them, dice them and julienne.

Little did I know I'd have to face such foolishness at the DMV.

I went down and demanded my license.

"Give me what is rightfully mine," I snarled.

But they would not give me a license. The fools said they needed identification, like a social security card and a birth certificate. I explained to them that those pieces of information had been destroyed several years ago in a grease fire in Belgium. I told him that I had all of the ID I needed with the card I filled out when I bought my wallet.

"See," I explained. "I filled it out myself in black ballpoint."

They slammed the office door on me.

So let me get this straight. They will give Joe Bob Cooter, my next door neighbor who drinks Schlitz and flegm at the same time, a license. They'll let the Kippy, the one-eyed lawn boy who takes out hedges and yells for points, a license. But they won't give me, the great Madame Fedora Lerrim, daughter of Lord Lerrim and three-time Pedigree show dog winner, a drivers license.

Who cares about a stupid license, anyway. I would much rather draw all of my attention to the one thing I do care about, and that is your problems (Cough, wheeze, snort).

Allow me to grab a Kleenex and a few of your letters from Madame's Mailbag:

Dear Madame:

I recently fell down a flight of steps and broke my left foot. I am now forced to wear crutches whenever I have to walk. The problem is, they really hurt my armpits.

What should I do?

Little Ed

Dear Lil' Ed:

Sorry about your unfortunate accident (heh, heh). There's nothing more amusing than watching a person fall down a flight of stairs.

Is it the noise, kaboom, kaboom, kaboom, that makes it so hilarious or is it the expression on the person's face as they're falling?

I know. It's stepping on their fingers as they lay on the ground.

Madame:

I am from France. You know what they say, French men are the best lovers, wee, wee. I must have you tonight. Meet me under za belltower when it chimes three times.

Joch

Dear Joch:

Once you mentioned the words wee wee you totally lost me. If I may quote the immortal Hall and Oates: "I can't go for that, no can do."

Well, it looks like it's time for me to say goodbye for this week. I've got a baked potato in the microwave. I will leave you with this thought:

I only have eyes for you, my sweet potato. Digayvu?

Sweet Is 'As Weird as I Want'

By ERIC JOHNSON

Matthew Sweet: "Altered Beast"

"It's all about changing shape," Sweet said in a press release. "One of the hard things for me about 'Girlfriend' was everyone wanted to take each song and have it literally be about something in my life. With this record, I continued to ignore that and be as weird as I wanted, so that people would have to realize that in my songs I could be anyone."

Anyone and everything would easily explain Sweet's latest release. "Altered Beast" is a collection of emotions and guises with a dark undertow.

Things get underway with the heavy handed force of "Dinosaur Act," which deals with a return to a bad relationship. That is quickly contradicted with the guitar jangle of "Devil With The Green Eyes." Contradiction is a big part of "Altered Beast" with dark songs and emotions played off of lighter songs.

The best example is Sweet's two versions of "The Ugly Truth." One is acoustic based with fiddle backing, while the second is "The Ugly Truth Rock," which is electric and backed by Richard Lloyd's patented lead guitar sound. One song, two different feels.

Sweet really lets his dark side show in "Knowing People," where he proclaims, "I don't like people knowing about me." He sets this one between the lighter tracks "Someone To Pull The Trigger" and "Life Without You." Other great songs are the on again, off again relationship of "Do It Again" and the slow deterioration of "Falling."

At first listen, "Altered Beast" isn't pleasing, but with a little effort the album transforms into something much deeper than what shows on the surface. Sweet has retained the



Matthew Sweet's newest release is "Altered Beast." "With this record, I continued to ignore that and be as weird as I wanted, so that people would have to realize that in my songs I could be anyone," Sweet said.

sound he had on "Girlfriend" and expands it with some deeper songs. While there aren't as many hit singles in this batch, it's a solid effort that deserves a lot of attention.

Billy Idol: "Cyberpunk"

Billy Idol has gone full circle with his latest release "Cyberpunk." The British singer has

combined some of his early punk attitudes with the latest technology and dance mixes. The album is based on the idea of an underground computer movement that is committed to making all information free.

Throughout the album Idol paints himself as a modern day savior bringing religion back in the first track "Wasteland" and referring to religion throughout. "Shock To The System" seems to be the latest version of punk in the modern dance world.

The rest of the album, however, is laden with slow dance tracks. Some, like "Power Junkie" would work as club singles, but most are a little too slow for that. Idol's version of the Velvet Underground classic "Heroin" sounds nothing like the original. This version depends more on drum beats than guitar riffs.

"Cyberpunk" contains a strong ending with "Then The Night Comes" which is the only other song that is radio assessable and the upbeat "Mother Dawn." For all of the new technology and experimentation, Idol seems to miss the mark. Even the dance crowd would yawn in the face of most of the tracks in this effort. Maybe Idol should go back and incorporate some more familiar elements in his vision of the future. If nothing else, he has pushed his limits as well as that of everyone else's.

Odds: "Bedbugs"

Canada's Odds became college favorites with their last release "Neopolitan," which included hits like "Love Is The Subject" and the catchy "Wendy Under The Stars." This time around the band has gone from ice cream to insects and still haven't lost their knack for writing great songs.

"Bedbugs" gets off to a slow start and then catches the groove with the walking blues of "Car Crash Love" and the James Taylor feel of "Yes (Means It's Hard To Say No)." Every one of the band's songs contains elements that everyone can relate to and that's what makes them so good.



Roland Orzabal carries on Tears for Fears with his latest release, "Elemental." His former partner Curt Smith has left the duo.

SEE TUNES, PAGE 6

Inclined Explores New Direction

REVIEW BY ERIC JOHNSON

Inclined is the latest trio to emerge from California's ever-changing music scene. Like the last West Coast trio, Dada, Inclined has taken their music in another direction.

The group has been around since 1984 when bassist Gene Perry and drummer Steve Smart met guitarist Miles Tackett while they were in junior high. Tackett's father, Fred, who is a guitarist and trumpeter for Little Feat, was a big influence on his son as well the rest of Inclined.

"It was a natural, environmental influence," the younger Tackett admits in a press release. "He was like a musical library to me, and contributed a lot to my musical diversity. I grew up listening to everything from bluesy, soulful stuff to country and jazz."

Tackett's musical experience has included studying piano, cello and guitar. More recently he has done production work for several rappers including basketball star Shaquille O'Neal. All of this has found its way back into Inclined's overall sound.

The band's debut release "Bright New Day" was originally nine songs that were put out independently in 1991, then a year later four more tracks were added after the band signed with Columbia Records. Inclined's cool pop grooves are laced with jazz and funk to create a very danceable record.

This is very apparent with the first track, "Two Minds," which gives a feeling of the band's three minds coming together and creating the music. "Somewhere In The Middle" shows the band's versatility, going from quiet acoustic to full throttle open jam in the middle and back again.

One of the best tracks in the collection is the instrumental "Day At The Races." Tackett works up a bluesy guitar riff that is infectious. This one seems to be along the lines of Joe Satriani and Steve Vai, only twice as funky. Tackett's earlier musical study is worked in on the touching ballad "She Won't Go." Here he combines cello and acoustic guitar to create a new ballad sound and feel.

While Inclined's lyrics aren't really catchy or memorable, their music is top notch. The group even experiments with a little rap at the end of it all, rapping out their thanks and acknowledgments instead of printing them in the liner notes.

In a live environment the band goes for broke by incorporating elements of improvisation into their songs.

"Spontaneity is the key," explains bassist Perry. "We love to make it up as we go along. It's total immediate gratification."

Currently, Inclined is on the road opening for Blind Melon, and both bands will be appearing at The Edge in Lincoln on Aug. 3.



Inclined's debut release "Bright New Day" combines cool pop grooves with jazz and funk to create a very danceable record. The band will appear in Lincoln on August 3.

Latest Country Music Not Very New at All

"Way down yonder on the Chattahoochee, it gets hotter than hoochie-coochie."

If you don't know the title of the song this clever lyric comes from, then you aren't hip. Yes, although I never thought I'd see the day, country western music is now the big craze.

At first, I dismissed it as nothing more than a passing fad. Just like the "Urban Cowboy" craze, when everyone wanted to look, talk and act like John (Bud) Travolta and Debra (Sissy) Winger.

The latest country craze has something the former one didn't: staying power.

It all started during the Persian Gulf War. Americans, being the patriotic group that we are, needed some sort of music to identify its pride in whipping the enemy. Alternative music was too depressing and narcissistic, rap was too angry and repetitive, and rock was, well, rock.

Country music artists saw this as their big break. They were the ones with the songs about pride in the U.S.A., shooting guns and drinking. Only problem was the stale Willie Nelson, Waylon Jennings, Conway Twitty and Ernest Tubbs standards weren't going to cut it.

So, what's a bunch of honky-tonkers to do? Try copying the pop music scene and call it country.

Listen to all the Alan Jackson's and Wynonna's you want, but take out the Southern twangs in their voices and you've got rock lite.

What really makes me ill is that these new country artists have the nerve to say they are just reinventing country music. That's like saying if I copy Liz Merrill's column (Page 3), put my name on it, and place it on another page, I've reinvented it.

Plain and simply, the country artist has admitted defeat and is selling out to the pop-rock world.

Need proof?

Go up to the next Garth Brooks groupie you see and ask her if she likes listening to Hank Williams or Loretta Lynn. The response will either be, who's that or who cares. The

new country fan can't stand listening to the old country music songs. Not to mention the old country

music fans can't stand to listen to the new stuff.

Go up to the R.E.M. fan and ask if she likes listening to the Beatles or David Bowie. If she doesn't like one, she's sure to like the other.

The reason why you will find this difference is because rock has stayed true to its roots and has evolved from there. The new country artists have turned their backs on theirs and looked to pop-rock for their salvation.

I'm not one to criticize the musical tastes of other people, it's just I'm tired of hearing these country artists claiming to be something they're not.

Simply put, "I know, it's only rock and roll, but I like it, like it, yes I do."

MICHAEL MESSERLY
columnist



Colorfast to Paint Omaha Red

Overwhelming Colorfast arrived on the college music scene last summer with their debut album packed with loud guitars and catchy lyrics. After spending some time on the road opening for

Social Distortion and the Ramones, the band has set out on its own club tour. This summer's tour finds Overwhelming Colorfast headlining the Ranch Bowl this Sunday.

Their latest single, "Heterosexual Man," is a spoof on being a bachelor and wanting to sleep with every woman in the world. This normal male urge is attributed to a gland problem. "Love Of Minds" is simply all of the right elements coming together to create a great song.

"The Little Death" is a Spin Doctor-ish funk that has an intense chorus, while "What I Don't Want" is an acoustic emotion that is tired of living and is in turmoil. The lyrics and images really stick and it could be a big song on college radio.

"Bedbugs" is easily the best Canadian release of the year. The Odds cover all the bases, including Craig Northey's guitar solos and guest appearances by Warren Zevon and guitarist Robert Quine. This is definitely an album worth checking out.

Tears For Fears: "Elemental"

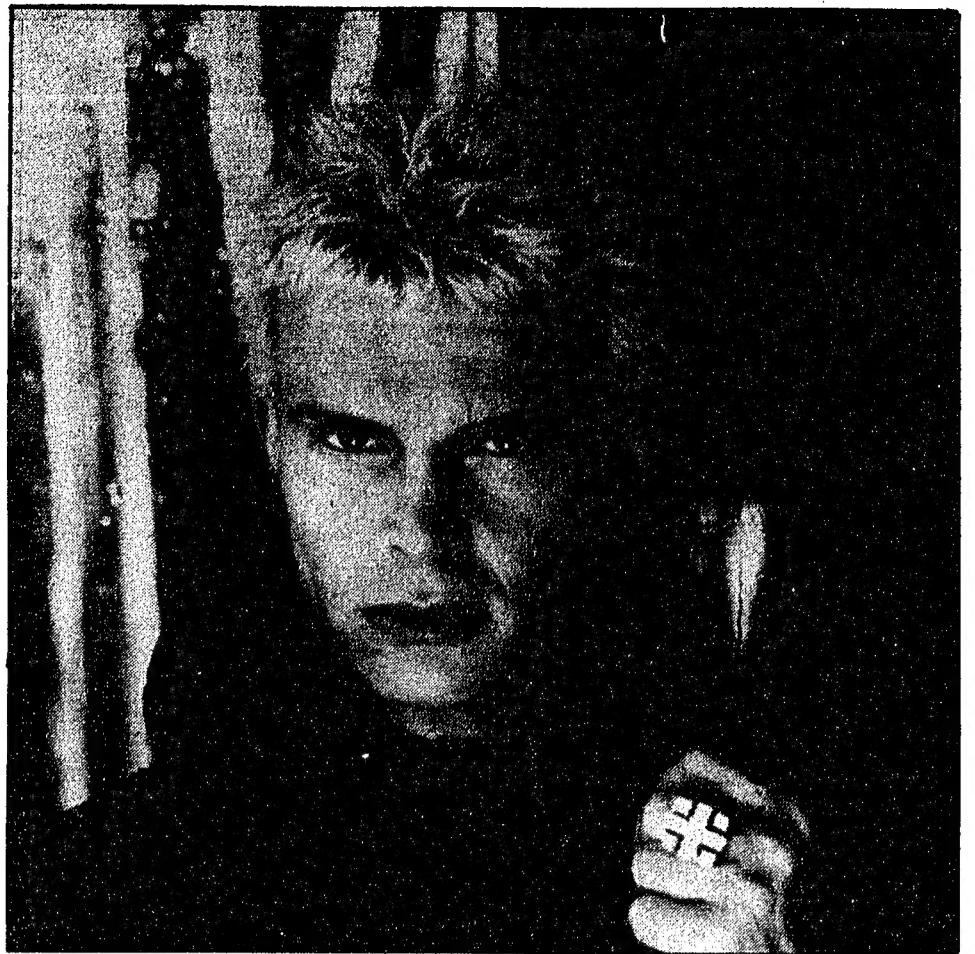
Roland Orzabal is carrying on the Tears For Fears tradition without his partner Curt Smith. Instead, Orzabal collaborated with musician Alan Griffiths and producer Tim Palmer. The three recorded the album at

Orzabal's home studio and co-produced it.

This collection is full of laid-back and cool pop with lyrics that seem clever the first time around. "Cold," which is the first single, is probably the best example. The biggest problem with the song is that it's too laid back. Tracks like "Break It Down" have more momentum and would have been a much better single. Even this song has a drawback in the cheesy synthesizer sound used on it.

"Dogs" is another upbeat song with lyrics that are kind of trite. It's the production flourishes that make up for the lyrical let down and make it a good song. "Brian Wilson Said" is an exploration into the late 60s experimental pop sound that the Beach Boys and Beatles were creating. It's a quiet song filled with Beach Boy backing vocals and controlled improvisation.

The biggest problem with "Elemental" is that its overall pace is too slow. It would be fine for spending time with that special someone, but not for everyday listening. Hopefully the more upbeat tracks will eventually make it to radio.



In his latest release, "Cyberpunk," Billy Idol combines some of his early punk attitude with the latest technology and dance mixes.

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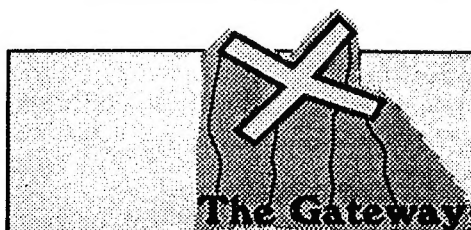
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Benson Student to Join Maverick Ranks

By TIM ROHWER

An all-state pitcher from Omaha Benson High will join another top local recruit on the UNO baseball team next year.

Jeff VanEvery, a 6-foot-5, 205 left-hander who had a 19-strikeout game for Benson this spring, has signed a letter of intent with the Mavs, Coach Bob Gates said.

VanEvery joins Millard South High left-handed pitcher/center fielder Greg Geary who signed earlier this summer.

"VanEvery is currently 9-1 with the Benson

Optimists team, and that 19-strikeout game is impressive no matter what level you're playing," Gates said. "He's got a good arm and size and he was all-academic for four years."

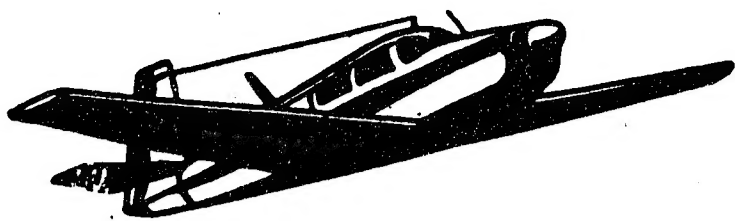
Gates said both recruits did well in basketball, as well as baseball in high school.

"Both players played on a high school championship basketball team, Greg in 1991 and Jeff in '92," he said.

The Mavs lost four pitchers from this spring's team. Gates said he is hoping to sign another pitcher to join VanEvery and Geary to help make up for the departures.

"We expect some walk-ons, too," he added.

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| AVN 1020 Private Pilot Theory | 3 | MWF | 11:00-11:50 am and 12:00-12:50 am (Wed) |
| AVN 1020 Private Pilot Theory | 3 | M | 5:30-8:50 pm |
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- *Tennis, Monday August 2, 3:30p.m.
- *Racquetball, Thursday August, 5, 3:30p.m.
- *Country Swing, Tuesday 10, 3:30p.m.



Blue Angels *Flying High*

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Approximately 195,000 people attended the Offutt Air Show and Open House at Offutt Air Force Base last weekend to watch the famous Blue Angels precision flying team and other events.

"We had about 80,000 people attend on Saturday and 115,000 on Sunday," said Master Sgt. Neil Henriksen of Offutt's Public Affairs office. "I'm sure everybody enjoyed themselves."

Besides the Blue Angels, a flying team known as the War Birds, which flies in older, vintage planes, also entertained the crowd.

The event also featured various military aircraft parked around the base area providing the crowd with an upclose look at the planes, Henriksen added.

"It's a method of bringing the community out and to bring them an appreciation for what we do in the military. It's also a way to give them an upclose look at those planes they see flying overhead all the time," Henriksen said of the event.

